



FAQs - Temporary Prohibition of Group Events and Gatherings, and Closures of Non-Essential Businesses

What types of facilities are closed?

- In alignment with the [Governor's Executive Order](#) given on March 21st, the City of Long Beach issued the [Safer at Home](#) order, that specifically requires all businesses to cease in-person operations and close to the public, unless the business is defined as an Essential Business by the Order. The Order requires the closure of the following types of commercial properties and businesses:
 - a. Non-Essential Retail Businesses.
 - b. Indoor Malls and Indoor Shopping Centers, including all stores therein regardless whether they are Essential or Non-Essential Retail Businesses. As an exception, Essential Businesses that are part of an Indoor Mall or Indoor Shopping Center, but that are accessible to the public from the exterior of the Indoor Mall or Shopping Center may remain open. The interior of the Indoor Mall or Indoor Shopping Center shall remain closed to the public.
 - c. This Order does not require closure of Essential Businesses in Outdoor Malls and Shopping Centers. However, owners and operators of Outdoor Malls and Shopping Centers shall enforce social distancing measures among their visitors.
 - d. Indoor or Outdoor Playgrounds for Children, except for those located within childcare centers.
 - e. Indoor and Outdoor Flea Markets and Swap Meets.
 - f. Additional types of commercial properties and businesses:
 - i. Bars and Nightclubs that do not serve food;
 - ii. Gyms and fitness centers;
 - iii. Movie Theaters, Drive-In Theaters, Live Performance Theaters, Concert Halls, Arenas and Stadiums;
 - iv. Bowling Alleys and Arcades; and
 - v. Wineries, Breweries, and Tap Rooms that provide tastings.

What other prohibitions are in effect under the latest Health Order?

- The Order also prohibits public and private gatherings of any size, and mandates that all residents remain at home, with the following exceptions as long as social distancing of six feet or more is maintained:
 - a. Travel to and from essential businesses.
 - b. Travel to work at, or provide service to, a healthcare operation or critical infrastructure.



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- c. Engage in essential activities such as going to the grocery store or a medical appointment.
- d. Exercise, jogging and other outdoor activities.

What is considered an Essential Business and may remain open?

- “Essential Business” means the following:
 - a. Grocery stores, certified farmers’ markets, farm and produce stands, supermarkets, food banks, convenience stores, warehouse stores, and other establishments engaged in the retail sale of canned food, dry goods, fresh fruit and vegetables, pet supply, water, fresh meats, fish, and poultry, and any other household consumer products (such as cleaning or personal care products). This includes stores that sell groceries and sell other non-grocery products, and products necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences;
 - b. Food processors, confectioners, food packagers, food testing labs that are not open to the public, and food cultivation, including farming, livestock, and fishing;
 - c. Organizations and businesses that provide food, shelter, and social services, and other necessities of life for economically disadvantaged or otherwise needy individuals (including gang prevention and intervention, domestic violence, and homeless service agencies);
 - d. Newspapers, television, radio, magazine, podcast and other journalism activities;
 - e. Gas stations, auto-supply, mobile auto-repair operations, auto repair shops (including, without limitation, auto repair shops adjacent to or otherwise in connection with a retail or used auto dealership), bicycle repair shops, and related facilities;
 - f. Banks, credit unions, financial institutions, and insurance companies;
 - g. Hardware stores, garden nurseries, building supply stores;
 - h. Plumbers, electricians, exterminators, custodial/janitorial workers, handyman services, funeral home workers and morticians, moving services, HVAC installers, carpenters, vegetation service, tree maintenance, landscapers, gardeners, property managers, private security personnel and other service providers who provide services to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation to properties and other Essential Businesses;
 - i. Businesses providing mailing and shipping services, including post office boxes;
 - j. Educational institutions (including public and private K-12 schools, colleges, and universities) for purposes of facilitating distance learning, providing meals for pick-up, or performing essential functions, provided that Social Distancing Requirements are practiced to the extent feasible;
 - k. Laundromats, dry cleaners, and laundry service providers;



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- l. Restaurants and other food facilities that prepare and serve food for delivery, drive-thru, or carry out. Indoor and outdoor table dining is not permitted. Cafeterias, commissaries, and restaurants located within hospitals, nursing homes, or other licensed health care facilities may provide dine-in service, as long as social distancing is practiced pursuant to Section 2 of this Order;
- m. Businesses that supply office or computer products needed by people who work from home;
- n. Businesses that supply other Essential Businesses with the support or supplies necessary to operate;
- o. Businesses that ship, truck, provide logistical support or deliver groceries, food, goods or services directly to residences, Essential Businesses, Healthcare Operations, and Essential Infrastructure;
- p. Airlines, taxis, ride sharing services, and other private transportation providers providing transportation services necessary for activities of daily living and other purposes expressly authorized in this Order;
- q. Businesses that provide manufacture and provide service for Essential Infrastructure and Healthcare Operations;
- r. Home-based care for seniors, adults, people with a disability, or children;
- s. Residential facilities and shelters for seniors, adults, people with a disability, and children;
- t. Professional services, such as legal, payroll, or accounting services, when necessary to assist in compliance with legally mandated activities, and the permitting, inspection, construction, transfer and recording of ownership of housing, including residential and commercial real estate and anything incidental thereto;
- u. Military/Defense Contractors/FFRDC (Federally Funded Research and Development Centers);
- v. Childcare facilities providing services that enable employees exempted in this Order to work as permitted. To the extent possible, childcare facilities must operate under the following mandatory conditions:
 - i. Childcare must be carried out in stable groups of 12 or fewer ("stable" means the same twelve (12) or fewer children are in the same group each day);
 - ii. Children shall not change from one group to another;
 - iii. If more than one (1) group of children is cared for at one (1) facility, each group shall be in a separate room. Groups shall not mix with each other; and
 - iv. Childcare providers shall remain solely with one group of children.
- w. Hotels, motels, shared rental units, and similar facilities.



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- x. Businesses that provide death care services, such as the removal, care and preparation, and interment of deceased persons or animals.
- y. Construction workers who support the construction, operation, inspection, and maintenance of construction sites and construction projects (including housing construction).

What guidelines should Essential Businesses follow?

- For all Essential Businesses open under the [Safer at Home](#) Order, businesses must take the following infection control precautions:
 - a. Practice social distancing within the confined space by requiring attendees to be separated by six (6) feet;
 - b. Provide access to hand washing facilities with soap and water or hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol;
 - c. Post a sign in a conspicuous place at the public entry to the venue instructing members of the public to not attend if they are experiencing symptoms of respiratory illness, including fever or cough; and
 - d. Adhere to communicable disease control recommendations provided by the Long Beach Department of Public Health and Human Services and the Center for Disease Control (CDC), including guidance for cleaning and disinfecting the site. See guidance posted at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>.

How long is the order in effect?

- While the Order is currently set to expire on Sunday, April 19, 2020, the State of California passed an Executive Order that supersedes Long Beach's local order. The State order does not have an end date.

What activities are restaurants allowed?

- Restaurants (permanent food facilities) do not have to close but are limited to preparing and offering food to customers via delivery service, pick up for take-out dining, or drive-thru.

Is outdoor dining allowed?

- No, outdoor dining is not allowed. Customers may wait in cleared out areas indoors or outdoors, following the guidelines for social distancing (separated by six (6) feet).

Can restaurants serve water to people waiting for take-out orders?

- Yes.



Can patrons order an alcoholic beverage while waiting in line for a food purchase?

- No, establishments may not serve alcoholic beverages to customers while they wait in line. Only bottled or packaged alcohol can be sold by licensed establishments. They cannot be consumed on site.

Have there been changes to ABC guidelines in California?

- Yes. The State has released [new guidance](#) as it relates to Alcohol Beverage restrictions and suspending enforcement of specific legal prohibitions for businesses that are currently permitted to sell alcohol. Currently, allowable activities are

Who should I contact to get official information regarding state guidance associated with my ABC license?

- For any questions regarding your ABC license and how the regulatory relief applies to your business, please contact the Southern District ABC Office at LongBeach/Lakewood@abc.ca.gov or (562) 982-1337 OR contact ABC Headquarters headquarters@abc.ca.gov or (916) 419-2500.

Can wine bars sell wine by the bottle?

- Yes, as long as an establishment has a specific liquor license to do so.

Can breweries sell growlers?

- Yes. Wineries, breweries, distilleries, and tap rooms that serve food or are licensed to sell bottled or packaged alcohol may sell growlers, bottled wine, bottled beer, and other packaged alcohol for take-out.

What about utilities? Will they be shut off during the closure?

- The City will not shut off water or gas. Other fees will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Will there be an impact on trash services?

- Trash services will not be interrupted.

Will there be any changes to parking meters?

- Yes, the City increased the courtesy parking time for on-street parking meters to 15 minutes to accommodate those picking up food from local restaurants.



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What assistance is there with unemployment?

- The City of Long Beach WorkPlace job center (4811 Airport Plaza Dr., Ste. 120) will remain open to assist Long Beach families, workers and small businesses affected by the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Managed by the [Pacific Gateway Workforce Innovation Network](#), The WorkPlace job center provides services to workers seeking information about job openings, vocational training, unemployment insurance benefits and additional workforce opportunities in Long Beach, Signal Hill and the Los Angeles Harbor communities. Additional information on The WorkPlace is available at www.pacific-gateway.org.
- Information about small business loans, business consulting and other programs can be found [here](#).
- Businesses seeking applications to state, federal and city loan programs, WorkShare employment program and other support services can call the City's Economic Development Department's business hotline at 562-570-4BIZ (4249) or visit the website [here](#).